rather dimly. Geographically it is demoralization, not infrequent in orinot a small country, like Belgium or Serental countries. bia, but its own wishes have as little consideration in the plans of the two law in the honest collection and disbefore hostilities.

mon knowledge and its geographical have accomplished something r Persituation is a very indefinite one in sia had not the prospect of a rehabilimost people's minds. It may be explained, however, that Persia is now a background for a very important Russian advance. It is the strategic base for military operations extending into Armenia and Mesopotamia.

The caravan route from the Black sea leads through Armenia to Persia. Harput, in Armenia, is on this route. There is an American consulate at Harput. American missionaries have their station there, though their outpost is at Uramia, across the Persian border.

Persia's position whhen the war broke out was not an enviable one. There was supposed to be some kinship with Turkey because of geographical contiguity and the prevalence of Mohammedanism, although the great mass of Persian Moslems are of the Shiites, while the bulk of the Turkish Moslems are of the other sect.

Some years back the western spirit permeated Persia. There was a demand for better government and an and to the absolutism of the shah. Parliamentary institutions even were demanded. There was a revolution which temporarily was successful. A young Persian element, similar to the Young Turks, succeded in upsetting the old regime. But the successful revolution did not bear lasting fruits. Soon the

ERSIA is one of the little-considforms. It sought to rehabilitate the It looms up in the background finances, which were in a condition of

sets of belligerents as had those small bursement of the revenues. Morgan countries, and politically it has not the Shuster was invited to undertake the influence which either of them had task of rehabilitation. His experiences Persia is rather remote from com- of the inherent difficulties, he might

OUNTRY Is One of the Little Considered Factors of the Great War, and Its Wishes Are Given Small Consideration by the Two Sets of Belligerents-The Russian Advance-Caravan Route From the Black Sea Leads Through Armenia to Persia-The Country's Position When War Broke Out-Financial Difficulties-Influence of Russia and England.



In England an influential section of the liberal party was opposed to the arrangement with Russia under which Persia practically lost its sovereignty. but considerations of British world power prevailed and the dissentient liberals made no headway in their protest against Sir Edward Grey's diplomacy. England acquiesced in Russia's overlordship of Persia with herself as a side partner.

Mr. Shuster found that American administration of Persian finances interfered with the plans of both Russia and England. They did not care to have Persian finances placed on a sound footing, except under their own auspices. Instead of adapting himself to the devious way of oriental diplomacy, Mr. Shuster undertook to bludgeon nis opponents. The end would have been the same, but had oriental methods been employed it would not have come so soon, and Russia and England would not have succeeded so easily in discrediting the American financial commis-

Russian influence caused some prominent Persians to go into exile. A few of a counterpoise to Russia and England, but while Germany undoubtedly was exerting herself to gain a foothold in Persia there was little she could do except to support Turkey as Persia's natural ally. Thus it happened that when the war came Persia had no say regarding her own attitude toward it.

east of Bagdad. There were statements about Russian armies in other parts of Bagdad, the city of the "Arabian Urumiah region.

bela, below Bagdad, which is to them what Mecca is to the orthodox Mohammedans.

The most direct route from the Persian background to Bagdad is that from Amara was forced to surrender to the A GROUP OF PERSIAN REVOLUTIONISTS.

A GROUP OF PERSIAN REVOLUTIONI Kasr-i-Shirin, and it is much the short-

when they chose, without saying to Persia "by your leave." Russian troops did the same. Greece's embarrassment unrough the occupation of Saloniki by the allies was nothing as compared with Persia's helplessness. That is the diplomatic and military situation today. Both Turkish and Russian troops will continue to occupy Persian territory according to their own convenience and regardless of the inconvenience to Persia. As a background for the Russian military operations against Mesopotania. Persia may be considered as if it were itself a part of Russia. It is really a very important strategic background.

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Dispatches a short time ago which came from Petrograd told of the occupation of Kasr-i-Shirin, just over the Persian frontier, by a Russian army, Kasr-i-Shirin is about 100 miles northeast of Bagdad. There were statements

Persian territory, one of them in the Nights," could not offer serious resistance to an army coming from the upper Tigris. It has no real modern desia runs through Bagdad. That is why fenses. Its chief defenses, in fact, are Persian territory is of strategic im- the floods from the Tigris. It was these portance to the Russian forces. Many floods which prevented the British from thousands of the Shiite pilgrims every reaching the city from the lower Tigris year travel this caravan route to Ker- and caused the surrender of the British

selves at Bagdad were all destroyed

above Bagdad. Mosul is known his- way to the Persian border, since the



LEADERS OF THE PERSIAN REVOLUTION FOR PARLIAMENTARY INSTI-

line is short, and thus Persia would be more than ever a background for Russian occupation of Mesopotamia, and Persia would be less than ever a factor in determining her own destinies.

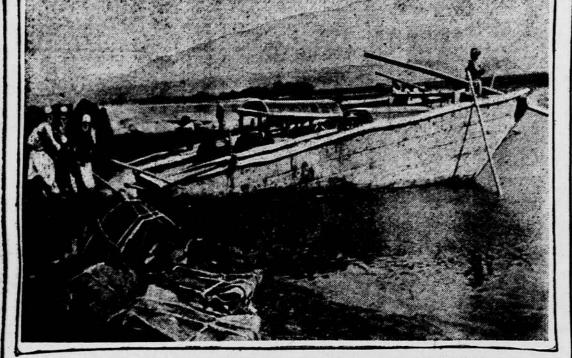
SOLDIER'S CURIOUS WAY OF GETTING DISCHARGE

Special Correspondence of The Star.

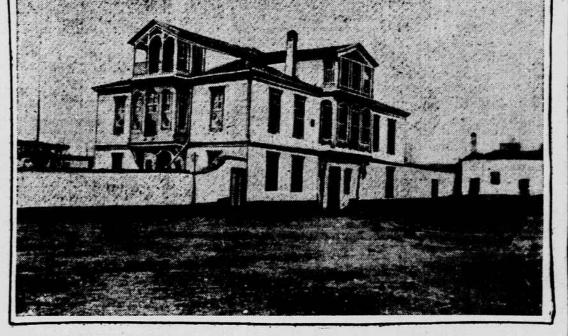
LONDON, June 1, 1916. MAN in the West Kent Yeomanry,

who fought at Gallipoli and is just back home by way of Alexandria, says that the following veracious tale is a favorite one with the lads out there. A certain soldier suddenly developed something like a mania for picking up loose scraps of paper. Wherever he was, in the trenches or out of them, he spent most of his time looking for any stray bits of paper and gathering them up. This soon became a nuisance, but drastic orders to refrain and long terms of "C. B." alike failed to cure him. He went on picking up bits of paper. Finally, in desperation, they sent him to France, thinking a change of scene might effect a cure, but, arrived there, his mania for gathering up paper fragments got worse instead of better. Finally, he was removed to the base, where he continued his "paper chase." At last, giving him up as a hopeless case, they sent him to London for examination as to the soundness of his mind. A board sat on him. They decided that he was "dotty" and should be invalided out of the army. They gave him his discharge, written on a neat piece of paper. that the following veracious tale is a

cation.
"Aha!" said he, "That's the bit of paper, I've been looking for!"



FERRY ACROSS THE EUPHRATES AT MESOPOTAMIA.



AMERICAN CONSULATE, HARPUT, TURKISH ARMENIA.

How the Great Community Flag for City of Buffalo, N.Y., Was Made by Women

MRS. JOHN MILLER HORTON, Regent of the Buffalo Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Tells How the Women of Her City Did the Work on Banner-Wrote Their Names on the Stars-Presentation Ceremonies in Buffalo-Other Cities Should Have Their Community Flags, Says Mrs. Horton. Not an Expensive Undertaking.

HAT a woman should be asked to provide the community flag for a great corporation is no mean honor, and there is hardly a loyal American woman who would refuse such a privilege. Mrs. John Miller Horton, at least, did not decline the honor when, last June, the city of Buffalo asked her to provide the great banner which would henceforth be used been most important public demonstrations in which the city took part.

Asked to tell about the making of the medium demonstrations in which the city took part.

I am proud of having had the privilege of seeing my city provided with a lege of seeing my city provided to lege of seeing made to meat



other flag episode with which she was arship in memory of her father, the whose father is a day laborer. The boy connected. This was the celebration in late Pascal Paolo Pratt, one of the Baltimore, in September, 1914, of the early philanthropists of his native city, and is deeply appreciative of this optomator of Fort McHenry, which inspired Francis Scott Key to write "The Star Spancis Scott Key to write "The Star

Regent of the Buffalo Chapter of the

LATIN ON U. S. CURRENCY.

Resent of the Buffalo Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Mrs. Horton also founded and has been president since its founding of the Children of the American Revolution. This chapter is named in honor of Nellile Custis, and the children are as full of zeal for their patriotic work as their elders. Their efforts are largely along the line of charity and education. They maintain a cot in the Fresh Air Mission of Buffalo and are educating a boy in South Mountain School. Last Christmas when a call came from the seal of the States. This Latin is in the great denominations of currency issued by the denomi